

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
Chesapeake Bay Commercial Mature Female Hard Crab Catch Limits
April 2019 through June 2019

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 08.02.03.14, announces the commercial mature female hard crab catch limits for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries for April 2019 through June 2019. Mature female hard crab bushel limits are based on results of the 2017-2018 winter crab dredge survey conducted by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Virginia Institute of Marine Science with input from advisory groups.

Blue Crab Licenses/Authorizations: Limited Crab Harvester License 50 pots (LCC), Unlimited Tidal Fish License (TFL), Crab Harvester License 300 pots (CB3), Crab Harvester License 600 pots (CB6), Crab Harvester License 900 pots (CB9).

The daily commercial mature female hard crab bushel limits for April 2019 through June 2019 are as follows:

- April 1 through May 30, 2019:
 - LCC – 2 bushels
 - TFL or CB3 – 6 bushels
 - TFL with CB6 or CB3 with CB6 – 9 bushels
 - TFL with CB9 or CB3 with CB9 – 13 bushels
- June 1 through June 30, 2019:
 - LCC – 2 bushels
 - TFL or CB3 – 9 bushels
 - TFL with CB6 or CB3 with CB6 – 13 bushels
 - TFL with CB9 or CB3 with CB9 – 16 bushels

Mature female hard crab bushel limits for the remainder of the crab season will be announced in June and will be based on results of the 2018-2019 winter crab dredge survey.

Crew limits as described in Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article, §4-814, are in effect. If crew members are not on board, then the licensee is restricted to the TFL or CB3 bushel limits.

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio
Secretary of Natural Resources